

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

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FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5233

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TANANARIVE 0496

E. O. 11652: DECON 4/10/74

TAGS: ETRD, ETRN, MA

SUBJ: MALAGASY MARITIME FIRM SEEKS USED CARGO SHIPS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN SUMMARY: MALAGASY FIRM WISHES TO PURCHASE THREE USED CARGO SHIPS. ACTION REQUESTED: INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE U. S. SOURCES. END SUMMARY.

2. MALAGASY SHIPPING FIRM, SOCIETE MALGACHE D' ACTIVITES DE PARTICIPATIONS ET D' AFFRETTMENTS MARITIMES (SOMAPAMAR), HAS APPROACHED EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING POSSIBLE US SOURCES FOR PURCHASE OF THREE USED CARGO SHIPS (ONE 250-300 TON AND TWO 500 TON) FOR USE IN COASTAL SHIPPING. SOMAPAMAR IS OWNED 51 PERCENT BY GOMR AND REMAINDER BY PRIVATE MALAGASY INTERESTS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. MALAGASY GOVT DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION, WITH WHOM EMBASSY CHECKED FOLLOWING SOMAPAMAR APPROACH, INDICATES THIS REBUEST DOES NOT DUPLICATE THAT OF MIN TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT ANDRIAMHAZO WHO HAS PREVIOUSLY INQUIRED ABOUT OBTAINING LCT' S AND LST' S (WHICH HAS BEEN SUBJECT EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH DEPT). LCT' S AND LST' S WANTED FOR USE IN AREAS WHERE NO PORT FACILITIES AVAILABLE WHEREAS CARGO SHIPS WOULD SERVICE REGULAR PORTS. SOMAPAMAR WAS RECENTLY CREATED BY GOMR AS PART OF EFFORT TO MALAGASIZE COASTAL SHIPPING NOW LARGELY CONTROL BY FOREIGN FIRMS. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

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4. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SOMAPAMAR REPRESENTATIVE INDICATED HIS FIRM HOPED TO BE ABLE TO PURCHASE TWO OF SHIPS FOR CASH AND THIRD ON CREDIT BASIS. FOR THIS REASON PREFERS TO PURCHASE ALL FROM SAME OWNER IF POSSIBLE.

5. SOMAPAMAR HAS PROVIDED FOLLOWING SPECIFICATPNS, HWEALIZSNG IT OAY NOT BE ASQE TO SECURE EVERTHING DEISRED:

A) FOR ALL THREE SHIPS: NOT OVER 10 YEARS OLD; DIESEL ENGINE WITH TWO AUXILIARIES; EQUIPPED WITH RADAR, SONAR, RADIOGONIOMETER, AND RADIOTELEPHONE SENDER AND RECEIVER: ONE OR TWO CARGO HATCHES.

B) FOR ONE 250-300 TON SHIP: MAXIMUM DRAFT- 2.2 METERS; MAXIMUM LENGHT- 48.5 METERS; SPEED- 48-10 KNOTS; FORE AND AFT DERRICKS- AT LEAST 1.5 TON CAPACITY.

C) FOR TWO 500 TONS SHIPS: MAXIMUM DRAFT- 3.5 METERS; MAXIMUM LENGTH- 50 METERS; SPEED- NOT LESS THAN 10 KNOTS; FORE AND AFT DERRICKS- AT LEAST 2.5 TON CAPACITY.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ASAP NAMES OF US FIRMS SOMAPAMAR COULD CONTACT RE POSSIBLE PURCHASE USED SHIPS OF TYPE OUTLINED ABOVE.
MENDENHALL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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